

## RADIOLUCENT AIMING GUIDE

### ABSTRACT

5 The present invention is directed to a radiolucent aiming guide for locating and  
drilling through the holes in the distal end of an implanted intramedullary nail. The aiming  
guide comprises an elongate handle constructed substantially of a radiolucent material,  
which does not cast a strong image on a monitor when exposed to radiation. The  
radiolucent handle is used in conjunction with a protection sleeve, trocar, drill sleeve, and  
drill bit, which are used to locate and drill through the hole in the nail. Radiopaque  
10 components in the distal end of the protection sleeve, trocar, and drill bit are used to align  
the drill over the nail hole. A pair of radiopaque pins, located within the handle and lying  
parallel to its longitudinal axis, aid in ensuring the proper rotational alignment of the aiming  
guide over the nail hole. The aiming guide may also include a structure to facilitate its  
alignment over a second hole in the distal end of the intramedullary nail.

15

20

25

30

35